

**Capsule Summary**  
**BA-0129**  
**Gorsuch Stone Barn**  
**15900 York Road**  
**Sparks, Baltimore County**  
**ca. 1841**  
**Private**

The property on which the circa 1841 stone building stands was originally owned by the prominent Gorsuch family. The stone barn was part of a larger farm complex that was established by John Gorsuch after he acquired the property prior to 1772 from his cousins, the Calverts, who received the original grant for the land. The property is located in the Sparks vicinity, just north of Philopolis at the intersection of York Road and Ensor Mills Road. The stone barn is extremely high style with patterned brick hourglass-shaped ventilators mimicking sheaths of wheat. Although the main house was destroyed by fire in 1916, some of the historic outbuildings are still extant.

The German bank barn, built into the hill, is seven bays wide and two stories high with an asphalt-shingled side gable roof. It was converted into a residence and retail facility in the early 1950s and has served in that capacity since that time. A product of this adaptive use is a glass and brick three-bay wide enclosure resembling the International style. The rear is clad in vinyl siding with a ground level parged stable portion. The barn was built upon a stone foundation. An elevated wood deck wraps around the western corner. An exterior end brick chimney was added in the 1950s renovation to serve the dwelling. The cornice has also been covered with aluminum siding. Rolling hills, a stream, residential and commercial buildings, and a wooded landscape surround the property. There are three historic outbuildings that remain on the property, which include a circa 1850 icehouse, tenant house, and a circa 1910 corn crib built on an older foundation.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-0129

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic      Gorsuch Stone Barn

other

### 2. Location

street and number    15900 York Road      not for publication

city, town      Sparks      vicinity

county      Baltimore County

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name      Retreat Farms, Inc.

street and number    15900 York Road      telephone    410.472.2300

city, town      Sparks      state    MD      zip code    21152-9390

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.    Baltimore County Courthouse      tax map and parcel    map 28, parcel 110

city, town      Towson      liber      2355      folio      355

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
- ☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- ☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
- ☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	_____ structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	_____ objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	_____ Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

**Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory**  
5

## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA-0129

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Constructed circa 1841, this large stone barn at 15900 York Road is constructed of stone with patterned brick ventilation detailing. The German bank barn, built into the hill, is seven bays wide and two stories high with an asphalt-shingled side gable roof. It was converted into a residence and retail facility in the early 1950s and has served in that capacity since that time. A product of this adaptive use is a glass and brick three-bay wide enclosure resembling the International style. The rear is clad in vinyl siding with a ground level parged stable portion. The barn was built upon a stone foundation. An elevated wood deck wraps around the western corner. An exterior end brick chimney was added in the 1950s renovation to serve the dwelling. The cornice has also been covered with aluminum siding. Rolling hills, a stream, residential and commercial buildings, and a wooded landscape surround the property. There are three historic outbuildings that remain on the property, which include a circa 1850 icehouse, tenant house, and a circa 1910 corncrib built on an older foundation.

### EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The primary façade of the barn faces northeast and measures seven bays in width. The northern side of the façade has two diamond and hourglass shaped ventilation designs on the first and second story. They are constructed of brick headers and stretchers. The designs are tied into the stone structure to provide light and ventilation for the barn. The fine brickwork pattern, published as an exceptional example, is described as the traditional sheaf of wheat with lateral diamonds.<sup>1</sup> The ground floor of this end, built into the hill, has a 6/6-wood window and a single-leaf four-light and paneled wood door. The southern end has two such ventilators on the second story, which are each placed above a 6/6 wood window with a molded wood surround and sill on the first story. The center three bays have been altered and are separated with four two-story square brick piers. Each bay features a modified international style glass curtain wall with a slightly overhanging second story. Each outer second story bay is composed of two rows of square glass lights with wood mullions with five lights on each row, while the central bay has six-lights to each row. There is an awning window on the top row of the two northernmost bays. The first floor of the central bay has a centered one-leaf glass door with four square glass lights to each side, a two-light transom, and two-light sidelights. The flanking bays are similar in style, but have six square lights that are banked and doors, with single transom lights, located on the outermost edge of the bays.

The northwest elevation of the building is three stories in height, due to the nature of bank barn construction. This end of the barn has been converted into living space and has been partially clad in aluminum siding. The ground floor has two 6/6 wood windows that exhibit rowlock sills and stone lintels. The first story has three horizontally oriented 2/2 metal windows with rowlock sills. Two of the windows are paired with a brick header coursed mullion. Half of the first floor has a wrap-around wood deck supported by metal poles. A single-leaf door accesses the deck. The second story has four horizontally oriented 2/2 metal windows with rowlock sills. The attic story has two modern metal louvered vents. The first and second stories of this elevation also exhibit

<sup>1</sup> Eric Arthur and Dudley Whitney, *The Barn: A Vanishing Landmark in North America* (Greenwich, CT: New York Graphic Society Ltd., 1972), p. 200.

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two diamond- and hourglass-shaped ventilation designs on the first and second story. They are constructed of brick headers and stretchers.

The rear, or southwest, elevation of the barn retains its general appearance as a German bank barn, but has been re-clad in aluminum siding and windows have been added. The stuccoed ground floor, located under the cantilevered overhang, originally housed animals. Seven 6/6 wood windows with molded wood surrounds and sills are interspersed with eight single-leaf Dutch vertical board wood doors detailed with strap hinges. Two bays are further sheltered by a wall that is flush with the above story exterior wall. The second floor is pierced with three horizontally oriented 2/2 wood windows, two sets of paired casement one-lights and four casement four-light windows. They each have molded wood surrounds and sills. The wrap-around wood deck on the western corner of the building is accessed from a second story double-leaf sliding glass door. The third story has nine 2/2 horizontally oriented metal windows.

The southeast end of the barn retains its original ventilation brick patterning with two diamond- and hourglass-shaped ventilation designs on the first, second, and attic stories. They are constructed of brick headers and stretchers. The designs are tied into the stone structure to provide light and ventilation for the barn. Another diamond-patterned ventilator is located in the gabled peak. However, alterations to the original structure have occurred. These include the addition of two 6/6 wood windows with molded wood surrounds on the ground floor, where a single-leaf three-light and paneled wood door is also located.

### INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The interior was not accessible at the time of the survey. Numerous alterations to the interior occurred in the 1950s when the building was converted from a barn to a shop and dwelling. The building now houses a residence, antique shop and a beauty salon. The ground level is used for storage.

### OUTBUILDINGS

There have been a main house, stone bank barn, tenant house, smokehouse, icehouse, stone barn, blacksmith shop, cemetery, springhouse, slave quarters, and privy historically associated with the property. At present, the outbuildings that remain on the property include a circa 1850 springhouse, a circa 1850 tenant house that has been altered, a circa 1910 corncrib built on the foundation of a stone barn, and a circa 1910 privy.

The side gable roofed tenant house was constructed circa 1850 and was remodeled after it partially burned in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The east side of the house faces Ensor Mill Road and consists of five bays. The original stone portion of the original structure consists of the two-story section on the southern end. The first story of this portion has single-leaf wood paneled door with a recessed surround and stone lintel. The second story has two 6/6 windows. This portion of the dwelling has stone quoins and a stone foundation. No chimney was visible in

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the original portion, and it is speculated that the chimney may have been destroyed by fire in 1916. There is a one-story gabled garage addition supported by bracketed wood posts. A two-story three-bay addition, under the same roof as the original portion, was added in 1917 after the fire. It displays the original stone foundation and asbestos shingle cladding. There is an off-center single-leaf paneled wood door with a pedimented overhang. The dwelling displays a five-sided bay window and a rear one-story shed addition.

A corn crib was built circa 1910 on the foundation of a previous stone barn built by John Gorsuch in 1841 that was destroyed by fire. The two-story building was built into the bank, on much of the old stone foundation. The corn crib is clad in weatherboard and displays overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails. The main entry is sheltered by an extension of the eaves and displays a triangular weatherboard pattern in the gable end. A side shed roof shelters the lower portion.

A circa 1850 springhouse is also located on the property. A springhouse is a small farm outbuilding, normally constructed near or over a spring, to protect a water source from pollutants and animals and to provide a cool, clean place for storing food, particularly dairy products. Springhouses were constructed as outbuildings on both 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century farms but most surviving examples are 19<sup>th</sup> century. The stone structure has an asphalt shingled gable roof with overhanging eaves. It is located on a small stream. A portion of the stone has been rebuilt. A single-leaf vertical board door with a wood soffit is located on the gable end.

Springhouses were usually constructed of stone or brick with shingled roofs but some log examples survive. Stone and brick provided better insulation than wood and because of the inherent dampness, they were a more permanent construction. Stone was often used for foundations even when the superstructure was wood. By the 20<sup>th</sup> century, foundations were often made of poured concrete. The floor was usually of brick or stone or, later, of concrete. Water flowed continuously through the springhouse. It was usually channeled through troughs in the floor or sometimes through raised troughs. It exited through an opening at the base of the building. Containers of milk or other perishables were placed in the trough and cooled by the running water. Because springhouses were constructed at or very close to the water source, they were often built into the side or base of a hill where a spring emerged from the ground. Construction close to the water source ensured the purity of the water. In form, many springhouses were boxy with shed or gable roofs and a single entry door. In order to prevent mildew and mold, adequate ventilation was required, usually accomplished with the use of window openings, louvers, or roof ventilators. Occasionally springhouses were two stories in height with the second story used for work such as making butter and cheese or for storage.

Guidelines for springhouse construction were described in an 1881 treatise on the construction of farm outbuildings:

The main points to look at in constructing a spring house are, coolness of water, purity of air, the preservation of an even temperature during all seasons, and



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perfect drainage. The first is secured by locating the house near the spring, or by conducting the water through pipes.... The spring should be dug out and cleaned, and the sides evenly built up with rough stone work. The top should be arched over, or shaded from the sun.... Where the spring is too low [to elevate the trough], the trough may be made on a level with the floor.... The purity of the air is to be secured by removing all stagnant water or filth from around the spring.... The openings which admit and discharge the water, should be large enough to allow a free current of air to pass in or out. These openings should be covered with wire-gauze, to prevent insects or vermin from entering the house. The house should be smoothly plastered, and frequently whitewashed with lime, and a large ventilator should be made in the ceiling. There should be no wood used in the walls or floors, or water channels. An even temperature can best be secured by building of stone or brick, with walls twelve inches thick, double windows and a ceiled roof.... The drainage will be secured by choosing the site, so that there is ample fall for the waste water....<sup>2</sup>

Larger springhouses were often associated with dairies. Halsted states that in designing a springhouse "the size will depend altogether upon the number of cows in the dairy." He suggested that "for a dairy of twenty cows, there should be at least one hundred square feet of water surface in the troughs. The troughs should be made about eighteen inches in width, which admits a pan that would hold eight to ten quarts at three inches in depth. A house, twenty-four feet long by twelve wide, would give sixty feet of trough, eighteen inches wide, or ninety square feet. The furniture of the house should consist of a stone or cement bench, and an oak table in the center, upon which the cream jars and butter bowls may be kept."<sup>3</sup>

A small, one-bay early twentieth century wood outhouse is also present on the premises. It is constructed of vertical board with a shed roof. The structure displays overhanging eaves, a single-leaf entry and exposed rafter tails.

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<sup>2</sup> Byron David Halsted, ed., *Barns, Sheds and Outbuildings* (Brattleboro, VT: Stephen Greene Press, 1977), pp. 170-176; NOTE: An almost identical description of springhouse design was published in *American Agriculturalist*, October 1874, p. 380.

<sup>3</sup> Halsted, p. 173.

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

**Specific dates** ca. 1841-1954

**Architect/Builder** Unknown

**Construction dates** ca. 1841

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The property on which the circa 1841 stone building stands was originally owned by the prominent Gorsuch family. The stone barn was part of a larger farm complex that was established by John Gorsuch after he acquired the property prior to 1772 from his cousins, the Calverts, who received the original grant for the land. The property is located in the Sparks vicinity, just north of Philopolis at the intersection of York Road and Ensor Mills Road. The stone barn is extremely high style with patterned brick hourglass-shaped ventilators mimicking sheaths of wheat. Although the main house was destroyed by fire in 1916, some of the historic outbuildings are still extant.

### HISTORY

Constructed circa 1841, the Gorsuch stone barn was built as an improvement to Retreat Farm, which had been owned by the Gorsuch family since 1772<sup>4</sup>. John Gorsuch acquired the property from his cousins, the Calverts, who took possession of the original land grant in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Four brothers from the Gorsuch family immigrated to Maryland from England soon after the colony's establishment. Two of the brothers, John M. and Dickinson Gorsuch, gained seven hundred acres known as "The Forest", where they are thought to have retreated from the Eastern Shore after the invasion of the British<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>4</sup> Baltimore County Land Patent. BC & GS 45:164.

<sup>5</sup> J. Thomas Sharf, *History of Baltimore City and County from the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men* (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1881), p. 881.

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The house and barn are present on the 1850 *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland* by J.C. Sidney. Patent research indicated that John Gorsuch owned the property, which was also known as Gorsuch's Retirement, in 1772. He willed the property to Dickinson and Thomas Gorsuch in 1840. According to the land records and physical evidence, it is during this period that the Gorsuch Stone Barn was built, probably by Dickinson Gorsuch.

Dickinson Gorsuch, along with his father Thomas Gorsuch, cousin Joshua Gorsuch, cousin Dr. Thomas G. Pearce, Nathan Nelson and Nicholas Hutchins, were involved in what became known as the Christiana Tragedy of 1851<sup>6</sup>. The men attempted to recapture slaves that had escaped the property from Thomas Gorsuch. With a warrant, a United States Deputy Marshall accompanied them to Christiana, Pennsylvania, where they discovered a number of escaped slaves. Having received better working conditions, the slaves refused to return to Maryland and an uprising occurred. Edward Gorsuch was killed by a gunshot wound, a thrown stone wounded Dr. Pearce, and Joshua was beaten rather badly. Dickinson was also wounded, while attempting to cover his deceased father. A long trial and political battle erupted during this time of the anti-slavery movement in America.

Thomas Gorsuch sold his portion of the land to Dickinson in 1858 for \$7,665. Dickinson Gorsuch was an entrepreneur and built the Ensor Mill gristmill near the property, with his "considerable mechanical ingenuity."<sup>7</sup> He also designed and built a tavern across the street on land also owned by the Gorsuch family. His agricultural tendencies were well respected in the community. He was an incorporating member of the Baltimore County Agricultural Society, which was formed in 1841. According to its charter, the object of the organization was to "promote, protect, and improve agriculture in all branches, and to hold fairs and exhibitions."<sup>8</sup> The organization was a joint stock association with 2,000 shares and a \$10,000 capital investment. The society was located on a thirty-seven acre tract in Timonium and the grounds included a racetrack, exhibition buildings, stables and pens.<sup>9</sup>

Dickinson owned the property until 1882 when 230 acres were willed to his son Irving J. Gorsuch and his wife, Susanna. A second forty-acre portion of the land was willed at the same time to his daughter Rebecca Francis Miller. Irving Gorsuch willed his 230 acres of the property to his sister Rebecca Francis Miller in 1900. Rebecca Miller's will, dated 1932, gave power of the property to Frederick Dorsey Mitchell, Mary B.M. Mitchell, and Elmer R. Haile, as executors. The property, as specified in the will, was granted to Frederick Dorsey Mitchell and Mary B. Mitchell in 1950 for \$10,000. After Frederick Dorsey Mitchell's death in 1952,

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<sup>6</sup> Sharf, p. 875.

<sup>7</sup> Sharf, p. 881.

<sup>8</sup> Sharf, p. 818.

<sup>9</sup> Sharf, p. 818.



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Mary B. Mitchell gained sole ownership. She sold it to Retreat Farms, Inc. in 1953. Retreat Farms is also known as Glencoe Gardens and is still operated by Ms. Emma Moser Carroll, who purchased 100 acres of the property in 1953 with her late husband. The Carroll's converted the barn into a residence, beauty parlor and antique store in the mid-1950s.

The property on which the Gorsuch Stone Barn is situated is on the west side of York Road, a few miles to the west of the Northern Central Railroad. It is located at the near the northern edge of the eighth district, which was one of the largest and most populated regions of the county in the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In 1877, it was considered the fourth largest district in the county and, by 1881, it had grown to the third largest district with 62.86 square miles and a population of 6,000. The area historically consisted of rolling hills, transversed by major transportation corridors. Although the district supported arable fields for plantings and dairy production, it was known for its iron ore deposits, marble and limestone quarries, paper factories, and saw, grist and cotton mills.

Although the property is located in the town of Sparks, near Glencoe, little is known about this small village. Appearing on maps as early as 1850, the barn is located just south of Hereford on York Road and north of Philopolis and Priceville. Hereford and Philopolis are 19<sup>th</sup>-century towns that are less than twenty-five miles north of Baltimore City. Situated between the York Road and the Northern Central Railroad, Hereford was home to 300 inhabitants in 1881 and at that time, was the center of a rich agricultural region. Philopolis, whose population in 1881 was 100, is bisected by the York Turnpike and sits one mile to the west of the Northern Central Railroad. It is nineteen miles from Baltimore was the home of the Glencoe Grange, No. 160, of which Dickinson Gorsuch was the leader. The close proximity of Hereford and Philopolis to York Road and the railroad rendered the small towns as centers of trade. Priceville was a mile to the west of Spark's Station and was settled as a stronghold of the Society of Friends by immigrants from England and Wales.

Prior to the organization of turnpikes in Baltimore County, many of the county's roads were considered unfit for use. Earlier efforts to incorporate turnpike companies originated from the county government, yet, by the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, efforts to create better roads emanated from the state government's efforts to better serve the growing rural population. This action resulted in laying of a road from Baltimore, Maryland to York, Pennsylvania that would replace the winding, indirect Old York Road.<sup>10</sup> The privately organized York Turnpike Company was incorporated in 1805. Work on the new road ceased in 1810, when the thirty-five miles of road from Baltimore to the Pennsylvania Line was completed. This route soon became one of the primary north/south corridors in Baltimore County. Taverns in Maryland Line, Wiseburg, Philopolis, and Timonium

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<sup>10</sup> Sherry H. Olson, *Baltimore: The Building of an American City* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997), p. 172; see also S. B. Clemens and C. E. Clemens, *From Marble Hill to Maryland Line: An Informal History of Northern Baltimore County* (np: C. E. and S. B. Clemens, 1976), p. 10.

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served travelers along the route.<sup>11</sup> In 1838, the Baltimore and Susquehenna Railroad Company began construction of a line that would run northward from Baltimore nearly parallel to the York Turnpike.

Part of the Gorsuch farm, the imposing high style stone barn was originally associated with the main house, supposedly built in 1794 as the first house in the Glencoe Community<sup>12</sup> This historic house burned in 1916. At one time, this property also included a tenant house, ox barn, springhouse, ice house, carriage house, and a small stone barn. The massive Gorsuch stone barn displays characteristics of the Pennsylvania Dutch stone barn building techniques. These include the stone massing, bank barn design, and diamond-patterned brick ventilators.<sup>13</sup> The barn was altered in the mid-1950s. There are three historic outbuildings that remain on the property, which include a circa 1850 icehouse and tenant house and a circa 1910 corn crib built on the foundation of the original small stone barn.

### Chain of Title:

November 17, 1840: John Gorsuch to Dickinson Gorsuch and Thomas Gorsuch  
Will Records of Baltimore County  
Liber 20 Folio 419

March 27, 1858: Thomas Gorsuch to Dickinson Gorsuch  
Land Records of Baltimore County  
Liber GHC 21 Folio 324

#### Part 1:

June 14, 1882: Dickinson Gorsuch to Irving J. Gorsuch, son, and Susuanna Gorsuch, widow  
Will Records of Baltimore County  
Liber JBM 6 Folio 479

March 1, 1900: Irving J. Gorsuch to his sister Rebecca Frances Mitchell  
Will Records of Baltimore County  
Liber HJH 31 Folio 199

#### Part 2:

June 14, 1882: Dickinson Gorsuch to Rebecca Frances Mitchell, daughter  
Will Records of Baltimore County  
Liber JBM 6 Folio 479

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<sup>11</sup>William Hollifield, *Difficulties Made Easy: History of the Turnpikes of Baltimore City and County* (Cockeysville, MD: The Baltimore County Historical Society, 1978), p. 51; see also *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia: G. M. Hopkins, 1877), pp. 44-49.

<sup>12</sup>Karen Riddlebaugh, "An Early American Farm, Specifically Gorsuch Farm" (Paper delivered, Glencoe, MD, 15 May 1965) np.

<sup>13</sup>Stanley Schuler, *American Barns* (Atglen, PA: Schiffer Publishing Company, 1984), p. 37.

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All:

May 16, 1950: Frederick Dorsey Mitchell, Mary B. M. Mitchell, and Elmer R. Haile, executors of the will of Rebecca Frances Mitchell, deceased, to Frederick Dorsey Mitchel and Mary B. M. Mitchell  
Land Records of Baltimore County  
Liber 1835 Folio 535

August 15, 1953: Mary B. M. Mitchell to Retreat Farms, Inc.  
Land Records of Baltimore County  
Liber 2355 Folio 355

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-0129

- Arthur, Eric and Dudley Whitney. *The Barn: A Vanishing Landmark in North America*. Greenwich, CT: New York Graphic Society Ltd., 1972.
- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*. Philadelphia: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
- Baltimore County Land Patent. BC & GS 45:164.
- Clemens, S. B. and C. E. Clemens. *From Marble Hill to Maryland Line: An Informal History of Northern Baltimore County*. Np: C. E. and S. B. Clemens, 1976.
- Halsted, Byron David, ed. *Barns, Sheds & Outbuildings*. Brattleboro, VT: Stephen Greene Press, 1977.
- Hollifield, William. *Difficulties Made Easy: History of the Turnpikes of Baltimore City and County*. Cockeysville, MD: The Baltimore County Historical Society, 1978.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	97.39 Acres	
Acreage of historical setting	97.39 Acres	
Quadrangle name	Hereford	Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Since the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the Gorsuch Stone Barn has been associated with the 97.39 acres of parcel 110 to be found on grid 14, map 28 of the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	L. V. Trieschmann, J. J. Bunting, and A. L. McDonald, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Inc.	date	24 September 2000
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

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Olson, Sherry H. *Baltimore: The Building of an American City*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997.

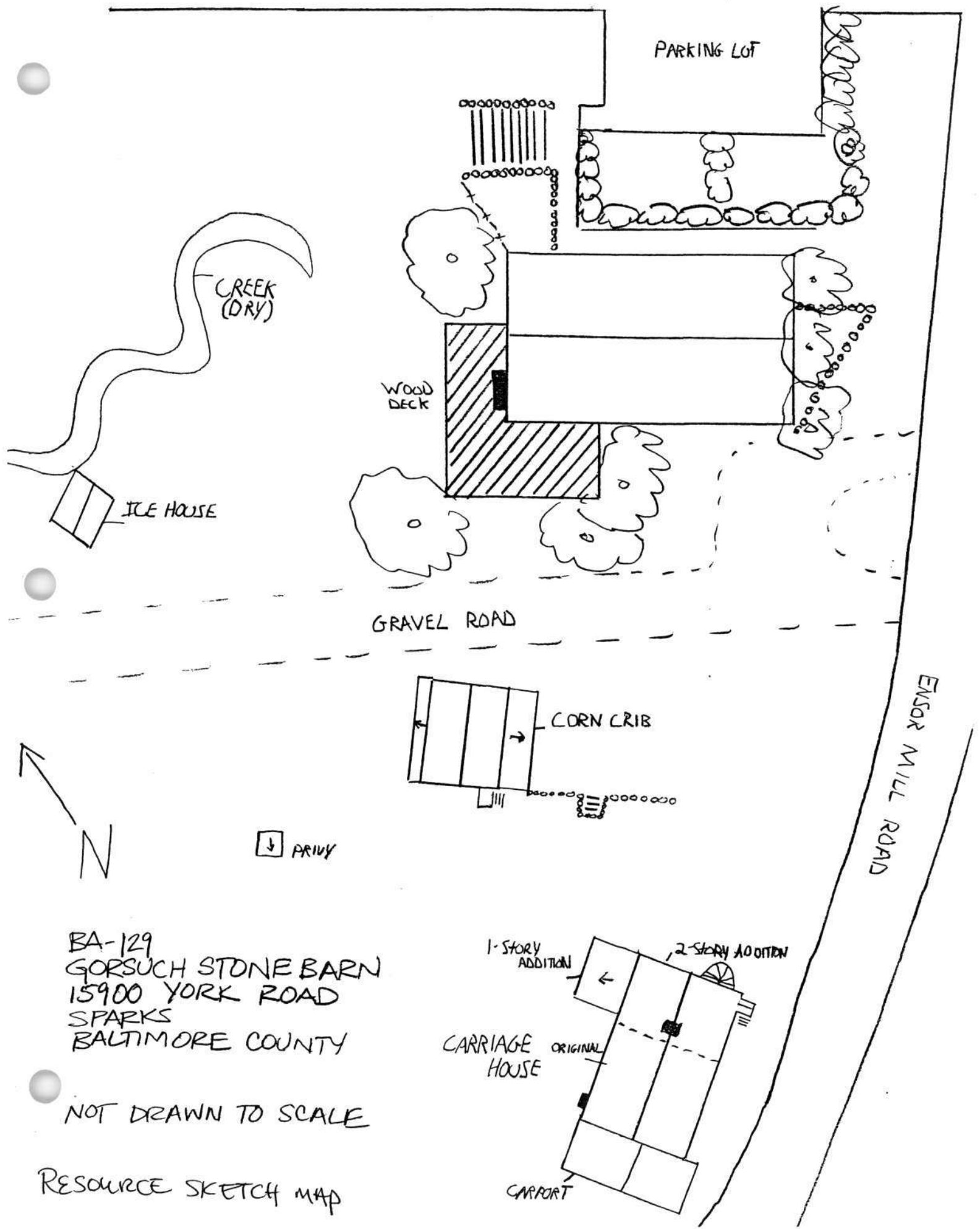
Riddlebaugh, Karen. "An Early American Farm, Specifically Gorsuch Farm" (Paper delivered, Glencoe, MD, 15 May 1965).

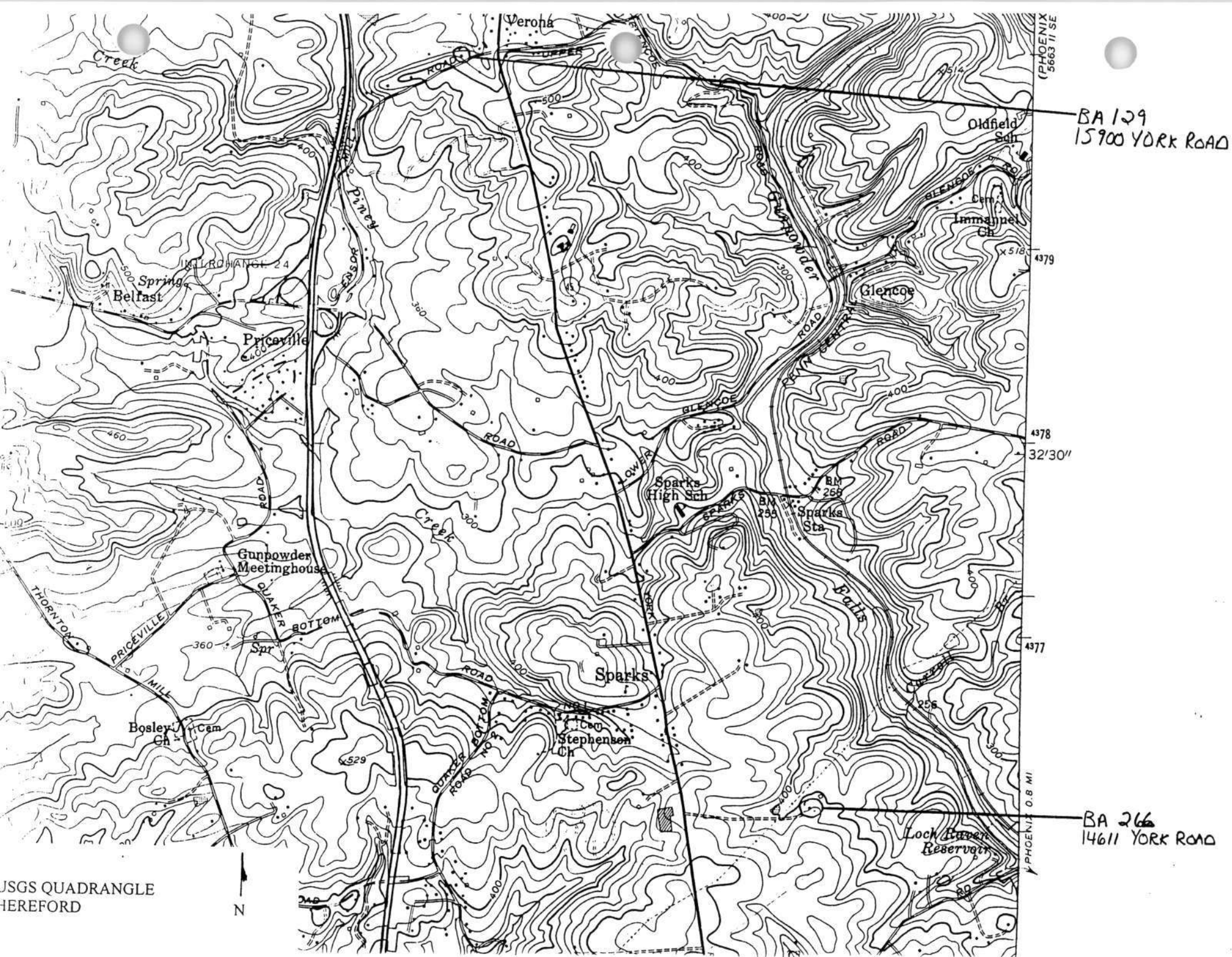
Sharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County from the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men*. Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1881.

Schuler, Stanley. *American Barns*. Atglen, PA: Schiffer Publishing Company, 1984.



# YORK ROAD

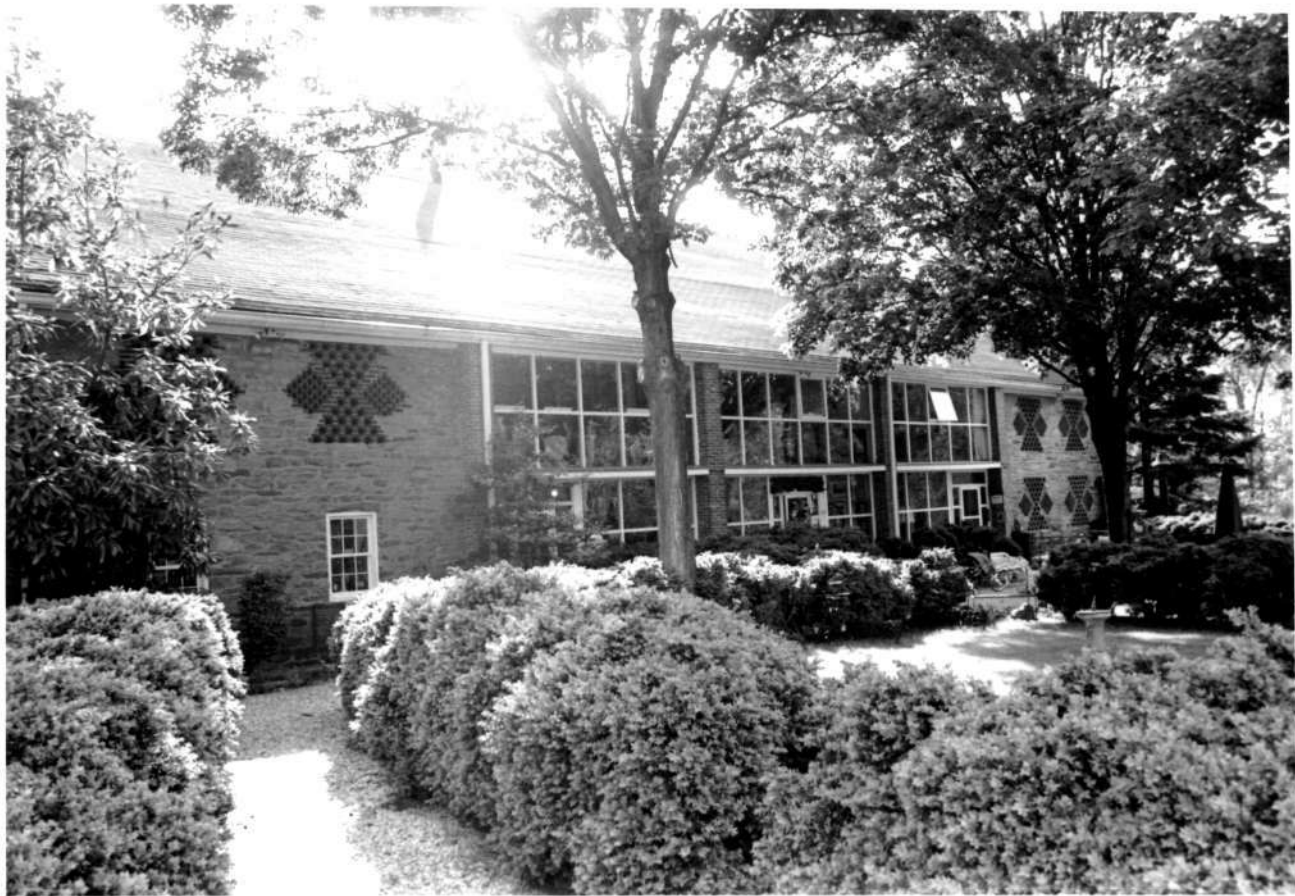




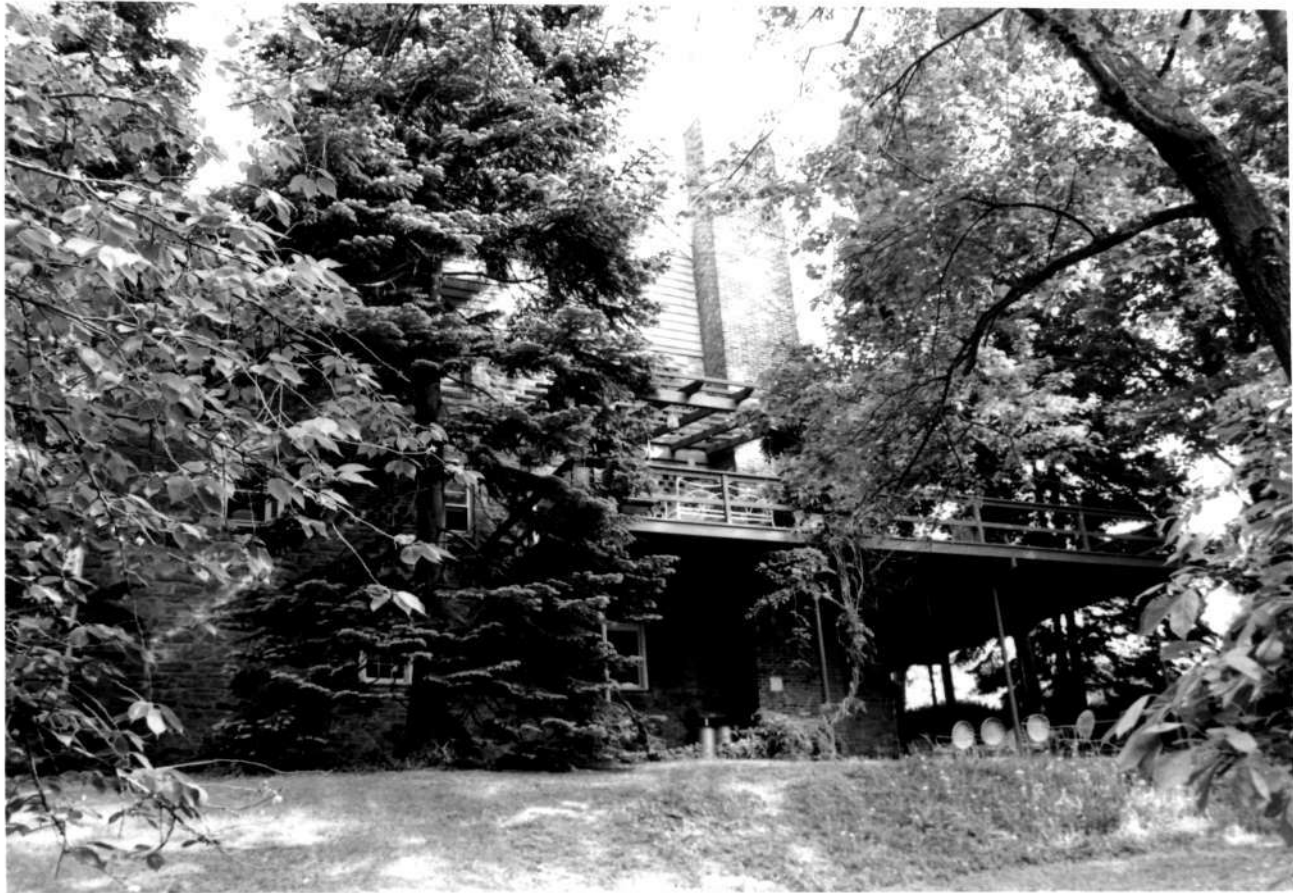
USGS QUADRANGLE  
HEREFORD

BA 129  
15900 YORK ROAD

BA 266  
14611 YORK ROAD



BA 129  
15900 YORK ROAD  
BALTIMORE COUNTY  
TRACERIES  
5/00  
MDSHPO  
NORTHERN ELEVATION, LOOKING SOUTH  
10F8





BA 129

15900 YORK ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY

TRACERIES

5/00

MDSHPO

WESTERN ELEVATION, LOOKING EAST

20F8



BA 129  
15900 YORK ROAD  
BALTIMORE COUNTY  
TRACERIES  
5/00

MD SHPO  
SOUTHERN ELEVATION, LOOKING NORTH EAST

30F8



BA 129  
15900 YORK ROAD  
BALTIMORE COUNTY  
TRACERIES  
5/00  
MD SHPO  
SOUTHEAST CORNER, LOOKING NORTH  
4 OF 8





BA129  
15900 YORK ROAD  
BALTIMORE COUNTY  
TRACERIES  
5/00  
MDSHPO  
CORNCRIB, SOUTHEAST CORNER,  
LOOKING NORTH

5 OF 8



BA 129  
15900 YORK ROAD  
BALTIMORE COUNTY  
TRACERIES  
5/00  
MD SHPO  
TENANT HOUSE  
NORTHEAST CORNER LOOKING SOUTH

6 OF 8



BA 129  
15900 YORK ROAD  
BALTIMORE COUNTY  
TRACERIES  
5/00  
MDSHPO  
OUTHUSE, EASTERN ELEVATION  
LOOKING NORTHWEST

7 of 8





BA 129  
15900 YORK ROAD  
BALTIMORE COUNTY  
TRACERIES  
5/00  
MDSHPO  
ICEHOUSE, NORTHEAST CORNER

8 OF 8

**GORSUCH STONE BARN** - 1841 - Westside of York Road at Ensor Mill Road. Now called Glencoe Gardens. Large stone barn with brickwork louvers in the hourglass and diamond pattern in end walls. Originally part of what was called Retreat Farm by the Gorsuch family who supposedly moved away from North Point during the War of 1812. Photographed in 1927 by Frances Benjamin Johnson (prints in Baltimore Museum of Art). Now property of Mr. and Mrs. William C. Price, who in 1952 began conversion of barn into dwelling, antique shop and garden center. Owner: Retreat Farm, Inc.

0301295306

Maryland

BA-129

Baltimore County

Gorsuch Stone Barn

District VIII

(Glencoe Gardens) York Road and Ensor Mill Road

1812

Large stone building with brick design in end walls.

Originally called Retreat Farm after family moved  
from North Point, during War of 1812.

Today, the property of Mr. & Mrs. William C. Price;  
converted to a home, antique shop, and nursesey.

(First HABS Report)  
E. Frances Offutt  
HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE  
COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

July 29, 1965